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and

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STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic encoder mounted on a bearing unit, comprising:

a reinforcing ring; and

a multi-pole magnet for detecting the rotation speed thereof, wherein: said multi-pole magnet is attached to the outside surface of said reinforcing ring.

a protective cover made of magnetic rubber <u>is</u> adhesively and peelably attached to the surface of said multi-pole magnet by magnetic force attraction therebetween.

2. (Previously Presented) The magnetic encoder according to claim 1, wherein: said protective cover is provided with a handle.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The magnetic encoder according to claim 1, wherein: said multi-pole magnet is attached to the outside surface of said reinforcing ring, and a film-shaped protective cover is attached to the surface of said multi-pole magnet.

- 5. (Previously Presented) The magnetic encoder according to claim 4, wherein: said protective cover is colored.
- 6. (Currently Amended) A bearing unit with an attached magnetic encoder mounted on the bearing unit, comprising:
 - a reinforcing ring, and
 - a multi-pole magnet for detecting the rotation speed thereof, wherein:

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said multi-pole magnet is attached to the outside surface of said reinforcing ring, and a protective cover made of magnetic rubber <u>is and</u> adhesively and peelably attached to the surface thereof; and

said protective cover is adapted to be removed from the surface of said multipole magnet after the magnetic encoder has been mounted on the bearing unit.

- 7. (Canceled)
- 8. (Previously Presented) The bearing unit with an attached magnetic encoder according to claim 6, wherein:

said protective cover is provided with a handle.

- 9. (Canceled)
- 10. (Canceled)
- 11. (Previously Presented) The bearing unit with an attached magnetic encoder according to claim 6, wherein:

said magnetic encoder is combined with a seal member having seal lips, and is mounted on the bearing unit.

- 12. (Canceled)
- 13. (Canceled)
- 14. (Canceled)
- 15. (Canceled)

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16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The magnetic encoder according to claim 1, wherein: said protective cover is made of magnetic rubber which was previously magnetized.

18. (Currently Amended) The magnetic encoder according to claim 1, wherein: said protective cover is colored for discriminating its species.